

**AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION:**

Please amend page 20, paragraph 66, as follows:

**[0066]** The process of binarization by the binarizing unit 25 will now be described. The multi-value image data I output from the density correction unit 24 and the weighted average error  $E_{avr}$  calculated by the error calculating means 66 and corrected using the gain adjustment value EG are added together by the adder 61 to calculate corrected data  $I_r$ . The corrected data  $I_r$  is input to the terminal B of the comparator 62 and the terminal B of the subtracter 64. The comparator 62 compares the corrected data  $I_r$  and the threshold value TH and a binarization result B is output.